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| Everyday Drone Stories  KS3.0 Invitation |

We would like to invite to you to participate in the *Everyday Drone Stories* research project.

The project is a collaboration between Dr Anna Jackman at the University of Reading and the Royal Geographical Society with Institute of British Geographers.

Drones are a growing feature of UK skies. In addition to growing recreational drone use by hobbyists, drones are increasingly deployed in a range of civil and commercial applications, from emergency services and infrastructure inspection to the delivery of goods. While associated with a range of benefits and opportunities (such as increasing safety and reducing costs and carbon emissions), so too are drones associated with challenges and risks (including safety and security concerns, and privacy and noise disturbance).

We are interested how children and young people understand and view drones, and their thoughts on how we might live with these technologies in the future. To encourage pupils to share their views and experiences, we have developed an activity:

Pupils at Key stage 3 are invited to develop a map depicting a chosen location or area familiar to them (this might include their home and garden, town centre and shops, or a local park) and to mark out where they think drones are currently or could in the future be used. Pupils are encouraged to share what they think drones are or could be used for (application, purpose), and who or what they think this drone use might benefit and impact (e.g., people, wildlife, environment). There is no right or single way to create this map, we are interested in gaining a deeper understanding of how children and young people view drones, their capabilities, and their potential effects and impacts.

**The activity sheets are accompanied with a blurb as well as several introductory resources and can be undertaken in class or as a homework activity**. We encourage pupils who take part to share a copy or photo of their responses, via their teachers uploading them to a secure online survey (accessible at: [Everyday Drone Stories](https://uor-redcap.reading.ac.uk/surveys/?s=34PDDKWPMF3KRL74)).

The project will be open to responses until 29 March 2024. We plan to collate the responses received and will share a selection of them on a Royal Geographical Society project website. Responses shared may also be included in other research project outputs (e.g., journal articles, blog posts). All responses shared will be anonymised (i.e., no names of children or schools included).

Further information, including: a teacher information form, head teacher information and consent form, pupil information form and consent form, parent/ guardian information and consent forms, and activity sheets are attached. You are most welcome to ask any questions and should direct these to Dr Anna Jackman ([a.h.jackman@reading.ac.uk](mailto:a.h.jackman@reading.ac.uk)). You can learn more about the Everyday Drone Stories research project by visiting the project website at <https://www.rgs.org/schools/teaching-resources/everyday-drone-stories/>.

With best wishes,

Anna

Dr Anna Jackman

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